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"'Anti-Semitism' and the Rosenberg Case"

By Lucy S. DAWIDOWICZ

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After the ROSENBERGs were convicted and sentenced to death on 5 April 1951, the Communists in the United States waged a vigorous campaign aimed at persuading the world at large that there was an anti-Semitic conspiracy in the U.S. Government administration. As the author points out, the campaign was not so much to secure justice in the ROSENBERG case as to elicit sympathy and support from individual Jews. It intended to demonstrate that "anti-Communism inevitably leads to anti-Semitism", and to provoke the lunatic fringe of anti-Semites by confirming the equivalence of "Jew" and "Communist", thus creating bitter feeling between the administration and the Jews.

Despite the mention of the names of some of the big-time spies such as COPLON, HISS, SOBELL, FUCHS, MAY, et al., the author did not relate them to Soviet intelligence. Involved in the campaign were William A. REUBEN, Joseph BRAININ, Howard FAST, Albert BEIN, Louis HARAP and William L. PATTERSON. Some of these men were writers who not only condemned the death sentence given the ROSENBERGs, but also linked it to anti-Semitism. Other individuals express varying attitudes on formation and conduct of the Committee to Secure Justice in the ROSENBERG Case. Neither the campaign nor the Committee was known as a Soviet intelligence operation.

A list of names of counterintelligence interest is appended to this review in alphabetic order.

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